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UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION III
841 Chestnut Building
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19107

SUBJECT: METCOA Site Superfund Community Relations Plan

DATE: MAY 18 1987

FROM: Harold R. Yates
Office of Public Affairs (3PA00)

TO: Janet A. Viniski, Director
Office of Public Affairs (3PA00)

Site: METCOA Radiation Site, Pulaski, Lawrence County, Pa.

Authorization: March 9, 1987, \$352.7K

Purpose: Site stabilization; waste excavation; staging, and characterization; and preparation for remedial study.

Site History: Defunct metal reclaiming facility, active from 1975 to 1983. Company had an NRC permit to handle low level radioactive waste.

Threat: About 500 on-site drums in various stages of deterioration, believed to contain heavy metal wastes. Large areas of soil contaminated with heavy metals and low level radioactive wastes. Threat of airborne contaminated soil particles, direct contact, and surface water.

Salient Features: Site abuts weekly farmers' market.

Special Considerations: According to Ann Cardinal, Babcock and Wilcox manage a radioactive waste facility in or around nearby Armstrong County and the company also is planning to build a radiator waste incinerator.

Communication Strategy: Considering that the authorization does not include a removal, the proximity of the farmers' market and the Babcock Wilcox situation, the plan is to keep the issue as close to the community level as possible, yet at the same time hide nothing from the news media. This is done by issuing news releases when required, and responding to press inquiries, but not initiating calls to the media. EPA/Community communication should be maintained by face to face and telephone contact public meetings should be scheduled as needed.

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